



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **CRAZY BEAUTIFUL WORE DOWN PLAYED HARD IN \$155,568 SENECA**

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Friday, Oct. 1, 2021) – Phoenix Thoroughbred III Ltd.’s** three-time graded stakes winner **Crazy Beautiful** wore down **Rigney Racing LLC’s** front-running, even-money favorite **Played Hard** in deep stretch to win Friday’s inaugural running of the \$155,568 Seneca Overnight Stakes for 3-year-old fillies at Churchill Downs.

Ridden by **Brian Hernandez Jr.** and trained by **Kenny McPeck**, Crazy Beautiful ran 1 1/16 miles over a fast track in 1:42.35 to collect her sixth win in 12 starts. The winner’s share of \$92,060 increased Crazy Beautiful’s earnings to \$801,925.

Earlier this year, Crazy Beautiful posted victories in the \$200,000 Gulfstream Park Oaks (GII), \$200,000 Summertime Oaks (GII) at Santa Anita and \$300,000 Delaware Oaks (GIII).

Crazy Beautiful paid \$5.20, \$2.60 and \$2.20 as the 8-5 second betting choice. Played Hard, ridden by **Tyler Gaffalione**, returned \$2.40 and \$2.10. It was another 2 3/4 lengths back to **Moon Swag** in third under **Florent Geroux**, who paid \$3.40 to show.

**Illiogami, Oliviaofthedesert** and **Time for Glory** completed the order of finish. **Double Dawn** was scratched.

Breaking from post position No. 4 in the field of six fillies, Crazy Beautiful raced just off pacesetter Played Hard’s right hip as the leader set fractions of :23.31 and :46.47. Played Hard had a length advantage midway around the final turn as she clipped six furlongs in 1:10.45 but Crazy Beautiful re-engaged down the stretch and inched clear of the tiring pacesetter in the final 100 yards.

“I saw in some of her previous races that she was able to use a little bit of early speed to get into a better position and would still have some punch late,” Hernandez said. “Today it looked like Played Hard could have an easy lead but I had confidence in my filly that she’d be able to keep close to the pace early. She’s ran against some really nice fillies this year and I think she may have used that class to her advantage today.”

Crazy Beautiful was bred in Kentucky by **Carolyn R. Vogel**. She is a daughter of Liam’s Map out of the Indian Charlie mare Indian Burn.

The race honors **Seneca Park**, which was the last park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted’s firm in Louisville. The park resides in the Louisville neighborhood of Seneca Gardens. It is part of the Cherokee-Seneca neighborhood, which is bounded by I-64 and other hilly neighborhoods.

## **SENECA OVERNIGHT STAKES QUOTES**

**Brian Hernandez Jr., jockey of CRAZY BEAUTIFUL (winner):** “I saw in some of her previous races that she was able to use a little bit of early speed to get into a better position and would still have some punch late. Today it looked like Played Hard could have an easy lead but I had confidence in my filly that she’d be able to keep close to the pace early. She’s ran against some really nice fillies this year and I think she may have used that class to her advantage today.”

**Greg Geier, assistant trainer of CRAZY BEAUTIFUL (winner):** “Brian got her into a great spot early. There wasn’t a lot of speed in the race but she got a good trip and she’s a really nice filly.”

**Phil Bauer, trainer of PLAYED HARD (runner-up):** “She ran a great race on the front end. It was really tough to get beat like that but she ran a great effort.”

## **ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK**

Churchill Downs Racetrack (“CDRT”), the world’s most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility. [www.ChurchillDowns.com](http://www.ChurchillDowns.com).

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